

### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A messaging system (300) capable of handling threaded messages. Older messages (400, 402) in a thread may be identified as having already been read or opened, and handled in the same way as later messages (404) in the thread. If a user opens an intermediate message (402) in a thread, he  
5 is informed of the presence of a more recent message (404) on the same topic and is offered the chance to open that message instead.